State of Arizona Senate Forty-sixth Legislature First Regular Session 2003

## **SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1001**

## A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONSIDER LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE A LEGAL WORKER PROGRAM FOR IMMIGRANTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)



To the Congress of the United States:

Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, Arizona's border is breached daily by hundreds of illegal immigrants who risk their lives to find employment in the United States; and

Whereas, residents across Arizona do not want to read any more tragic stories of immigrants dying in the desert and these deaths often include mothers, children, sixteen year old boys and young fathers; and

Whereas, residents of border communities want the flood of people crossing their property and passing their homes to stop, many residents in Southern Arizona live in constant fear for their personal safety and business owners and individuals live with continuous property destruction that costs significant money to continually repair; and

Whereas, border counties in Arizona are burdened with millions of dollars of uncompensated expenses for emergency room treatment of illegal immigrants; and

Whereas, Arizona's agricultural businesses need legalized workers to harvest tomatoes, citrus, chili peppers and other fruits and vegetables and, without these workers, agricultural businesses cannot harvest their crops; and

Whereas, other businesses across the nation depend on illegal workers to maintain their production and business operations and studies by the United States Department of Labor report that illegal immigrant workers are a strong contributing factor to the strength of our nation's economy; and

Whereas, a legal worker program would halt the flood of illegal immigrants at our border and would free the border patrol from the continuous processing of illegal immigrants crossing our border and allow the border patrol to concentrate and stop the illegal drug smuggling and criminal activities that proliferate along the United States and Mexico border.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

- 1. That the Congress of the United States introduce and enact legislation that would establish a legal worker program for immigrants who enter our country through ports of entry, including regulations that require the employers to pay minimum wage to these workers, that require the workers to pay payroll taxes, that protect the workers from exploitation and that allow the workers to be eligible for employer-offered health insurance.
- 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 31, 2003.

PASSED BY THE SENATE JANUARY 30, 2003.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 1, 2003.

Passed the House March 31, 2003,	Passed the Senate January 30, 20 93,
by the following vote: 44 Ayes,	by the following vote: 30 Ayes,
	Nays, Not Voting
Jak Dlake	In Demet
Speaker of the House Cheryl Laube	President of the Senate
Asst, Chief Clerk of the House	Secretary of the Senate

S.C.M. 1001

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

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at	:20	_o'clock _	P	M.
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